

October 17, 2002, in Chesapeake, VA. When Al died, he was at his computer rallying his fellow veterans in an effort to ensure the cemetery would be built. We were talking with Al on an almost daily basis. That was part of Al's essence—never giving up and always going the extra mile to make a difference in other people's lives. His dedication to the veterans and the State of Virginia will never be forgotten.

Al Horton was a dedicated husband and father. In his will, he stipulated that he and his beloved wife, Evelyn, who preceded him in death, should be buried in the unfinished cemetery. It gives me great peace to know that in the near future Al's wishes will be honored.

While Al Horton cannot be with us on September 8, 2003, when we dedicate the cemetery he worked so hard to create, I know that he will be smiling as he looks down. Al Horton understood that the recognition and proper burial of our veterans is an integral part of our national heritage and an important way for a grateful nation to say "Thank you". Our veterans have continuously defended and renewed America's promise through their efforts. It is only fitting that we honor them in their final resting place.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that we take this opportunity to recognize Al Horton for his passion, his commitment, and his love for his country. Al was a veteran, an advocate, an author, and a friend to all who knew him. I hold Al Horton in high esteem and have nothing but respect and affection for this wonderful man. I know my life is changed for having met him, because he was willing to make a difference for those who fought to preserve our freedom and asked for nothing more than a place to rest in eternal peace.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT W.
CULLEY OF HILL CITY, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who had a positive effect on the lives of many people in Northwest Kansas and across the state. We mourn the death of Mr. Robert W. Culley of Hill City, Kansas.

A life-long Kansan, Mr. Culley never hesitated to answer the call to serve his family, community, state and country. He lived a life guided by the morals and values we hold dear in rural America: strong beliefs, faithful service and absolute integrity.

Shortly after his graduation from college, Bob volunteered for the Navy in June of 1942. After basic training in Rhode Island, Bob was assigned to the 60th Construction Battalion and was sent to the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific to build an airfield for future operations against Japan. Bob continued his military service, graduating from the Supply School at Harvard and then serving aboard the battleship USS Texas until the end of World War II.

Bob returned to his hometown of Mullinville, Kansas, where he spent twenty years farming and ranching. Bob started a new career when he accepted an offer to become the President of the Consolidated State Bank in Hill City.

It was during his tenure at the bank that I was fortunate to have the opportunity and pleasure to work with Mr. Culley. As a recent college graduate, I quickly came to admire his intelligence, integrity and dignity. Working for Bob taught me a great deal about banking, but even more about being a good person. I know that I am better for having known him and worked with him.

He contributed an endless amount of time in making his community a better place to do business and raise a family.

Most important to Bob was his family. Over the course of 61 years together, he and his wife Catherine raised a son and daughter, Tom and Sara, and devoted endless love and attention to his two grandchildren.

He was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Hill City Rotary Club, the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star, the South Solomon Shrine Club, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Hill City Elks Lodge, the Graham County Historical Society, the Graham County Community Foundation and the Graham County Hospital Board.

Bob also served on the Fort Hays State University Endowment Board and was a past president. He was involved in the David and Mary Rush Scholarship Trust, where he and other trustees awarded scholarships to Graham County High School graduates.

Through his kindness and service, Robert Culley made his community, state, and nation a better place. I join his many friends and admirers in extending my deepest sympathies to Catherine and her family during their time of loss.

TRIBUTE TO RUSH-MILLER
FOUNDATION

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize a charitable organization that works to improve the lives of blind or visually impaired children throughout the United States. The Rush-Miller Foundation raises money to donate bicycles to visually impaired children in ten different states across the country. The foundation works to inspire confidence and a more active lifestyle in children who are visually impaired.

The Rush-Miller foundation was formed in 2001 in recognition of the benefits that the initial project had conferred upon Garrett Rush-Miller. Garrett had been an outgoing, active child until a malignant brain tumor inhibited his usual activities and he stopped playing outside. With the hope that a tandem bicycle could improve Garrett's outlook, his parents were able to obtain a bicycle through the charitable contributions of many friends and sponsors. Now, the Rush-Miller foundation aspires to help other children like Garrett by donating bicycles to help restore their active lifestyles.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Rush-Miller Foundation for their philanthropic work. I commend the foundation for its noble objective and congratulate everyone involved on their tremendous success. I wish the foundation all the best in the years to come.

HONORING MR. XIA CHIA XIONG

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Mr. Xia Chia Xiong for all of his service to the Lao community in Merced, California. As the first President of the Merced Lao Family Community, Inc. he touched many lives.

Born in 1940 in Laos, Mr. Xiong dedicated his life to helping the Lao community. From 1957–1961, he was an assistant to the Chief of Nam Chanh District, City of Mong Pheng, Vangvieng Province, in Laos. During the Vietnam War, he worked for the United States Central Intelligence Agency and was bestowed the rank of major. With the fall of Laos in 1975, he led a group of Hmong refugees to take refuge in Thailand and served these refugees until he immigrated to the United States in 1980.

In the United States, Mr. Xiong served the first President of the Merced Lao Family Community, Inc. for 4 years. He then served as their Project Director for 2 years. His work in the community is recognized by many. It is my honor to also recognize his achievements.

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD C. EATON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Harold C. Eaton, a leader in the field of civil rights in both his community and the nation as a whole. His tenure as the Mobile District Corps of Engineers Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, which was marked with numerous accomplishments, has truly earned him the honor of being inducted into the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees.

Mr. Eaton served his country through Federal service for 44 years, beginning with his assignment at Brookley Air Force Base in 1956. Following the closing of the base in 1967, Mr. Eaton transferred to the Mobile District Personnel Office and was later appointed to the position of District Equal Employment Opportunity Officer (EEO) in 1974.

The advancements made by Mr. Eaton during his time as EEO Officer were nothing short of outstanding. Facing the issue of equal opportunity during one of the most tumultuous times in the nation's history, Mr. Eaton's career was marked with a number of challenges. The most serious of these challenges was the court-ordered Consent Decree, a class action lawsuit outlining affirmative action goals for black employment in the Mobile District. Mr. Eaton worked diligently and effectively to solve the problems faced by the community in the field of equal opportunity and was successful in having the Decree lifted in 1987. Through his work in the community, Mr. Eaton became a recognized leader on the local and Federal level in the field of affirmative action.

A second major challenge Mr. Eaton faced during his tenure as EEO Officer dealt with private contracting for the Tennessee-